

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1-20 were presented. Claim 20, which is withdrawn from consideration as a result of the previous restriction requirement and election of claims 1-19, is canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-19 are now pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

The indication of allowable subject matter in claim 5 is noted and appreciated. As set forth below, applicant believes that all currently pending claims are allowable over the effective art of record.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 1-4 and 6-19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Akiho (US 7,000,837) in view of Ivanov (US 5,557,497). Because Akiho is not an effective prior art reference against this application, applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and submits that claims 1-4 and 6-19 are in condition for allowance.

Akiho claims priority in PCT/JP03/10984, which was filed on August 28, 2003. However, under 35 USC 102(e), Akiho is effective as prior art as of this PCT filing date only if it designated the United States and was published in the English language (see MPEP 706.02(f)(1)). Akiho was published on April 28, 2004 as WO2004/029868 in the Japanese language (copy of cover page enclosed). Therefore, since Akiho was not published in the English language, it is not effective as a prior art reference as of its PCT filing date of August 28, 2003. Instead, Akiho is effective as a prior art reference only as of its PCT publication date of April 28, 2004., which is after the filing date of March 23, 2004 of this application. Accordingly, Akiho is not an effective prior art reference against this application, and the rejections of claims 1-4 and 6-19 in reliance on Akiho should be withdrawn.

Since Akiho is not an effective prior art reference, and since no further grounds for rejection are set forth, applicant submits that withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of all claims is appropriate.

Appl. No. 10/806,950
Amdt. dated June 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 24, 2006


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Conclusion

This application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of this amendment. Please charge any fees due with this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX

(19) 世界知的所有権機関
国際事務局



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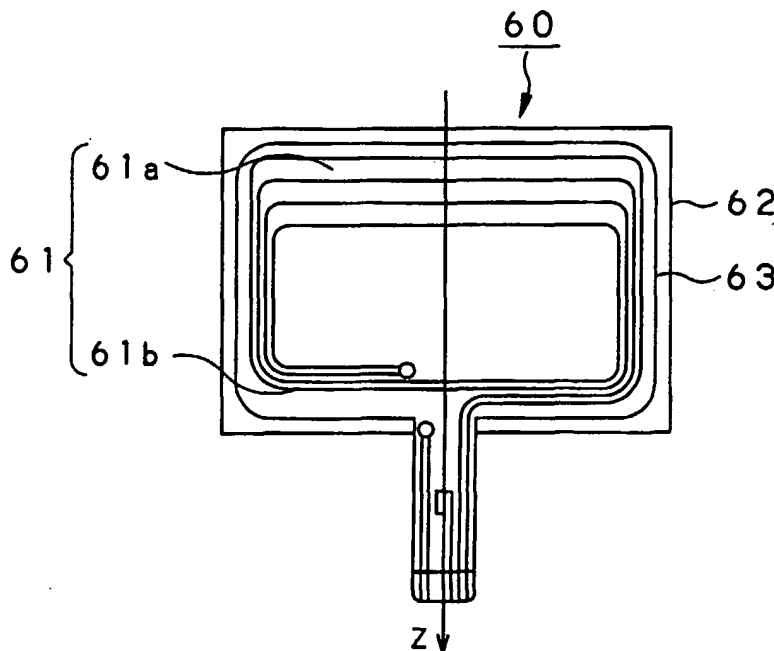
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— 国際調査報告書
- 2 文字コード及び他の略語については、定期発行される各 PCT ガゼットの巻頭に掲載されている「コードと略語のガイダンスノート」を参照。

(54) Title: ANTENNA DEVICE AND COMMUNICATION DEVICE USING ANTENNA DEVICE

(54) 発明の名称: アンテナ装置及びアンテナ装置を用いた通信装置



(57) Abstract: An antenna device (60) which is used in a recording and/or reproducing device for writing and reading data to/from a non-contact IC card (1), and which has a loop coil (61) that emits an electromagnetic field to magnetically couple with a loop coil (4) on the IC card side and transmits/receives data, and a magnetic sheet (62) disposed to face a main surface, on the opposite side of a main surface facing the IC card, of the loop coil, the relative permeability μ' and the product $M_s \cdot t$ of a saturation magnetized quantity M_s and a thickness t of the magnetic sheet being set according to a required communication range.

(57) 要約: 本発明は、非接触型の IC カード (1) に対してデータの書き込み及び読出しを行うための記録及び/又は再生装置に用いられるのアンテナ装置 (60) であり、この

アンテナ装置は、電磁界を放射し IC カード側のループコイル (4) と磁気結合してデータの送受信を行うループコイル (61) と、ループコイルの IC カードと対向する主面とは反対側の主面に対向して配置された磁性体シート (62) とを有し、磁性体シートは、必要な通信範囲に応じて、その比透磁率 μ' と、その飽和磁化量 M_s と厚み t との積 $M_s \cdot t$ とが設定される。

WO 2004/029868 A1